

## SKULL FRACTURED BY A WIFE'S BLOW.

Aged W. H. Hickey of Phillipsburg, N. J., Beaten Down in His Own Home.

Woman He Married Less Than a Year Ago Attacks Him with a Poker.

FOUND UNCONSCIOUS BY A BOY.

Mrs. Hickey Now Ill from Excitement in the County Jail—Says Her Husband Threw an Album at Her and She Struck Him.

Phillipsburg, N. J., May 6.—W. H. Hickey was formerly Street Commissioner of this town. He is nearly sixty-eight years old. For a long time he was a widower, but less than a year ago he decided to marry a woman named Miller, who lived at Bangor, Pa. She is fifty-five years old. The wedding was a quiet one.

The honeymoon was hardly over when stories of violent quarrels between bride and bridegroom shocked this quiet town. In the summer there was an open row and Hickey and his wife parted. After a few weeks, however, they became reconciled, and went to live in the same house again. The matter dropped from the public mind, only to be revived this week by what may be a tragedy.

Hickey on Monday evening attended a meeting of the Town Council. He went home at 10 o'clock. Half an hour later his grandson, William Kutzler, found him lying on the floor unconscious. Mrs. Hickey could not be found. The blood was flowing from a wound on Hickey's head, and the boy ran to the house of Dr. Kline. The physician remained with the injured man for several hours, and finally succeeded in restoring him to consciousness.

"It was my wife," said the old man faintly, when asked what had caused his injury. "She struck me with a poker."

The doctor had discovered that Hickey's skull was fractured, and he at once sent for Squire Bowers, who took the old man's statement.

Hickey said his wife quarrelled with him. He answered her warmly and she struck him on the head with the poker. The blow knocked him down and she struck him again.

Hickey was removed yesterday to the Eastern Hospital. His condition is serious. Mrs. Hickey, who, according to young Kutzler, did all night in the garret, was arrested. Her story differs from that told by her husband.

She says that at supper on Monday evening she and Hickey quarrelled over a rug. After returning from the Council meeting she began to grumble and finally threw the family album at her. It struck her and knocked her down. She had the poker in her hand, and when he approached she struck at him, fearing that her life was in danger.

Mrs. Hickey is now ill in the County Jail at Belvidere. Her nervous system has broken down, and the jail physician is attending her.

## BELIEVED IT WAS A LAW.

Citizens of Essex County Surprised to Learn That the Poll Tax Has Not Been Abolished.

Trenton, N. J., May 6.—In the pamphlet laws of the session of 1895 there appears a chapter which purports to be a law, but which was in reality killed in the Senate by having the enacting clause stricken out. The law was intended to abolish the poll tax, and was favored by the representatives from Essex County. The bill passed House all right, but met with opposition in the Senate, and, owing to a clash between Senator Rogers, of Camden, and Governor Ketchum, of Essex, the bill was killed.

The killing was not done by an adverse vote, but by an affirmative one, passing the bill with the enacting clause cut out. There was a mistake in some way, and the bill went to the Governor for his approval. It appears to have been marked on the Senate floor that the enacting clause was stricken out. The Governor took no action on the bill, and in making up the laws for publication the compiler evidently supposed the bill had become a law without the approval of the Governor. Many people, finding the law in the published volume, supposed they were exempt from poll tax, and have neglected to pay. As the matter stands the poll tax is still collectible.

## TO FIGHT ITS OWN FIRES.

Glen Ridge Must Depend on Its Own Amateur Force.

Bloomfield, N. J., May 6.—After June 1 the borough of Glen Ridge will have to fight its own fires with its amateur department. The Township Committee having decided to withdraw the services there of the regular Bloomfield department.

The action of the Bloomfield committee was due to the objections raised by the women, who declared that inasmuch as Glen Ridge had a government of its own it should not be ordered to answer alarms there.

Many Glen Ridge citizens are quite uneasy over the state of affairs, and fear a raise of insurance rates by the new order.

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## SQUABBLE OVER A WOMAN'S GRAVE.

Pastor Heck Objects to the Burial Service of Secret Societies.

Tries to Stop the Reading of the Ritual at the Interment of a Church Member.

TROUBLE IN A NEWARK CHURCH.

Lodge Members Condemn the Conduct of the German Lutheran Clergyman. He Says the Ritual is Not Religious.

Rev. John Heck, pastor of the German Lutheran Church, Hoboken, does not approve of or recognize secret societies, and at present he is engaged in a controversy with the members of two prominent societies of that city. As the majority of the members are women, Pastor Heck is having rather a lively time of it.

Mrs. Meta Schmidt died on Saturday last at No. 609 Park avenue. She was a member of Schiller Lodge, No. 1,830, K. and L. of H., and of the Hoboken Independent Frauen Verein. Delegations from both societies were present on Monday when the funeral services were held in the German Lutheran Church.

They were a part of their regalia, which is against the rules of the German Lutheran Church, but the pastor said nothing. When the services in the church were over the funeral cortege started for the cemetery in Greenpoint. Two men and four women acted as pallbearers. Pastor Heck held services at the grave, and it was at the conclusion of his remarks that the clash occurred.

He was about to turn away from the grave when he heard a woman behind him commence another service. He at once entered a protest, but the woman went on.

Pastor Heck commanded her to stop, and there was a squabble between the lodge members and the pastor. One member used language that was far from mild.

The relatives of the dead woman, so Pastor Heck stated to the lodge members, desired no ceremony save a religious one. A Mr. Ascher jumped across the grave and insisted that the lodge ritual be read. The pastor then left the grave.

Since the funeral the lodge members have been discussing the matter and have severely criticized Pastor Heck for interfering with the service. The pastor, when seen yesterday at his home, No. 513 Washington street, said lodge services were but a ritual in form and under no circumstances would he allow them to be held in his church.

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## COLD WATER MEN CONVENE AT TRENTON.

New Jersey Prohibitionists Have Fun at Their State Convention.

One of Them Wants to Send a Bible to the Pennsylvania Brethren in Philadelphia.

DR. MEAD IS ELECTED CHAIRMAN.

He Says Ministers Should Fight for Temperance Instead of Free Silver. Delegates and Electors Chosen.

Trenton, N. J., May 6.—The Prohibition State Convention was held today. There were three hundred delegates among whom were a dozen women.

Mrs. Emma 'Bourne, of Newark, was elected one of the delegates-at-large to the National Convention.

When the convention opened Rev. Dr. C. H. Mead, of Montclair, was chosen as chairman. He has only recently moved to this State from New York. Dr. Mead called the attention of the delegates to the fact that the Pennsylvania Convention was in session in Philadelphia, and suggested a greeting to them. He declared that many ministers of the Gospel were untrue to their God and themselves by temporizing with the liquor traffic, which indirectly and often directly controlled them. Many ministers' mouths in New Jersey were closed in fighting the liquor traffic because it was a political question. Dr. Mead continued: "Only to-day on the train, coming here from New York, I saw a letter from the chairman of the Pennsylvania State Convention, to one of the most noted orators in the temperance cause who is to address the Pennsylvania Convention to-day, telling him that he must not discuss the moral side of the prohibition question."

Cries of "Shame!" "Shame!" came from the delegates.

Dr. Mead intimated that the threat to have a free silver plank inserted in the National Prohibition platform was belittling prohibition as an issue.

The Committee on Resolutions offered a message to be sent to the Pennsylvania Convention, and Edward Page Stites, of Cape May, moved to add a verse from Nehemiah: "Be ye not afraid of them. Remember the Lord, who is great and terrible, and fight for your brethren, your sons and your daughters, your wives and your houses."

The amendment was added. Tallie Morgan caused a laugh by suggesting that a whole Bible be sent to the Pennsylvania Convention.

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Convention. In the afternoon a reply was received. Every half hour during the convention, Mr. and Mrs. C. J. Beveridge, of Kansas, sang Prohibition songs, all of which were of a humorous nature.

The following is the State electoral ticket: First District—Thomas Armistead, of Glassboro; Second—Jacob D. Joslin, of Trenton; Third—George Le Mont, of Bound Brook; Fourth—Theodore N. Logan, of Glen View; Fifth—Peter L. Conklin, of Hackensack; Sixth—Dr. Richardson Gray, of East Orange; Seventh—Joel W. Brown, of Jersey City; Eighth—Joel W. Van Cise, of Summit.

## BOUNDARY LINE DISPUTE.

Effort of Mrs. Williamson to Remove a Post Leads to a Larceny Charge.

Belleville, N. J., May 6.—The fight between residents of this place over the boundary lines of their properties, which created so much excitement last week, had another chapter added to it last night before Justice La Fancher.

Patrick H. Smith was given a hearing on a charge of larceny, preferred by Mrs. Andrew Williamson, of John street, who claimed that Smith had taken a spade, shovel and pick belonging to her.

The hearing was the outcome of an attempt by Mrs. Williamson to remove the post, which she claimed was on the line of the property abutting Mrs. Smith's, and which she claimed was on the line of the property abutting Mrs. Smith's.

Mrs. Williamson, after trying several times to remove the post, without success, finally picked up an axe to finish the work. Very impetuous that Mrs. Williamson had done this, it is said, picked up and carried to his mother-in-law's property; hence the arrest for larceny.

Smith admitted the larceny part of the case, but declared it was done as a means of defence. The Justice, after many witnesses had been examined, held Smith under bonds to keep the peace.

To Oust Republican Incumbents.

Newark, N. J., May 6.—Justice Dupue has resigned the formal order calling for a recount of the vote at the election of last month for Commissioners of the Board of Public Works. By the recount the Democratic candidates, Gray and English, hope to oust Ulrich and Joralemon, the Republicans, who were successful, according to the returns as sent in by the local Boards of Election.

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## COMMUTERS READY FOR WAR.

Belleville Residents to Protest Against Increased Erie Rates.

Belleville, N. J., May 6.—Town Committee Percy Jackson, of this place, at a meeting of the committee last night introduced a resolution calling for the appointment of a committee of the members to protest to the Erie Railroad directors against increased commutation rates and to make arrangements for a mass meeting to be held in Passaic Hall next week.

Messrs. Underwood and Jackson were appointed as the committee, and they arranged for a meeting to be held on Friday night. There is general indignation over the order and unless it is rescinded the probabilities are that the citizens, rather than be subject to such imposition, will take to Newark by the trolley and take the Lackawanna Road, even if it does inconvenience them.

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